



CANADA

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The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable
Mr. Joe Clark, the Minister of National Health and Welfare, the
Honourable Mr. Marc Lalonde, and the Minister of Manpower and Immigration,
Honourable Robert Andras, are pleased to announce the preparations
the Government has initiated in order to participate fully in the
World Population Year, 1974. The highlight of this
preparation will be the World Population Conference, to be held under the
auspices of the United Nations in Bucharest, Romania, from August 17
to September 1, 1974. The Government of Canada has prepared and submitted
to the United Nations "Second Inquiry on Population Growth
and Development". This "Country Statement", which is a factual account
of the present status of population-related policies and programmes in
Canada, was presented in the House of Commons on October 17, 1973.

As part of the ongoing preparations for the Bucharest
Conference, the Canadian Institute of International Affairs, in con-
sultation with the Family Planning Federation of Canada and the Inter-
national Institute on Population, has been asked to host a series of public
hearings in various regions.

CANADIAN PARTICIPATION IN WORLD POPULATION YEAR

The purpose of the series of meetings will be to seek the
views of interested Canadians and organizations on the agenda items
which the United Nations has decided upon for the Bucharest Conference.

- recent population trends and future prospects;
- relations between population change and economic
and social development;
- relations between population, resources and
environment;
- population, family and human well-being;
- the World Population Plan of Action.

The Federal Government has written to the appropriate
provincial and territorial authorities to inform them of
the programme of public consultation and to elicit their interest and
views. The Federal Government is also looking forward to exchanging
views with the provinces as well as the two territorial governments after
meetings have been held with a view to discussing Canadian
participation in the World Population Conference.

**DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES EXTÉRIEURES**

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Mitchell Sharp, the Minister of National Health and Welfare, the Honourable Marc Lalonde, and the Minister of Manpower and Immigration, the Honourable Robert Andras, are pleased to announce the preparations which Canada has initiated in order to participate fully in the United Nations World Population Year, 1974. The highlight of this year will be the World Population Conference, to be held under the auspices of the United Nations in Bucharest, Romania, from August 19 to 30. To date the Government of Canada has prepared and submitted a response to the United Nations "Second Inquiry on Population Growth and Development". This "Country Statement", which is a factual account of the present status of population-related policies and programmes in Canada, was tabled in the House of Commons on October 17, 1973.

As part of the ongoing preparations for the Bucharest Conference, the Canadian Institute of International Affairs, in consultation with the Family Planning Federation of Canada and the Inter-Church Project on Population, has been asked to host a series of public meetings on a regional basis across Canada. Meetings will be held in Moncton, Quebec City, Toronto, Saskatoon, Vancouver and Yellowknife within the next few months. Precise dates are soon to be announced by these sponsoring bodies.

The purpose of the series of meetings will be to seek the views of interested Canadians and organizations on the agenda items which the United Nations has decided upon for the Bucharest Conference. These are:

- (1) recent population trends and future prospects;
- (2) relations between population change and economic and social development;
- (3) relations between population, resources and environment;
- (4) population, family and human well-being;
- (5) the World Population Plan of Action.

The Federal Government has written to the appropriate provincial ministers and the territorial authorities to inform them of the plans for public consultation and to elicit their interest and support. The Federal Government is also looking forward to exchanging views with the provinces as well as the two territorial governments after the regional meetings have been held with a view to discussing Canadian positions at the World Population Conference.

During this period of consultation and preparation it is expected that Mr. Rafael Salas, who is Executive Director of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities and has responsibility for the World Population Year, and Mr. Carrillo Flores, former Foreign Minister of Mexico, who has been designated by the United Nations as Secretary General of the World Population Conference will visit Canada on February 21 and 22 and April 1 and 2 respectively.

A fundamental objective of World Population Year is to stimulate and support constructive planning by national governments in connection with the comprehensive range of population issues which appear on the agenda for the Conference in Bucharest. In the case of Canada a number of significant projects in this field are under way. One of these, announced by the Minister of Manpower and Immigration last autumn, is the review of immigration policy and population issues, which will examine immigration in the framework of Canada's demographic economic and cultural objectives. The consultations to precede the Bucharest Conference, as well as the results of the Conference itself, will contribute to the process of public discussion within Canada which the Government considers an essential aspect of the immigration and population review.

At the same time, domestic population considerations cannot be seen in isolation. A major purpose of the Bucharest Conference will be to focus on the international dimensions of population questions and the development of coordinated international efforts in the field of population.

The Department of External Affairs has responsibility for coordinating Canada's preparations for the participation in the World Population Conference. An ad hoc Interdepartmental Committee on Population, composed of all departments and agencies of the Federal Government concerned with population questions and chaired by the Department of External Affairs, will continue in its advisory capacity.